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## EVENTS OF THE DAY

Epitome of the Telegraphic News of the World.

PERSE TICKS FROM THE WIRES

An interesting collection of items from the two hemispheres presented in a condensed form.

Boers have retired from Senekal. British stormed and took the town of Bethlehem, Dewet retreating.

The empress dowager again holds the reins of government in China.

Three men were killed by the explosion of a boiler at an oil works in Astoria, Oregon.

The total casualties of the British, as a result of the Boer war, up to date are 48,188 officers and men.

St. Louis street car strikers again have their buses running in opposition to the Transit Company.

The French ship L'Aquitaine has sailed from Toulon with 850 infantry and artillery for China.

New York tailors are again planning a big strike. Contractors are violating agreements made several years ago.

Dr. Charles F. McDonald, the organizer of our postal money order system, died at Hamilton, Ontario, aged 71 years.

Southern negroes may go to Hawaii. Plantation owners of the island will make them good offers with a view to dispensing with the troublesome Jap laborers.

A plot to assassinate President McKinley has been frustrated. It was concocted by a group of Spanish and Cuban conspirators who had headquarters in New York.

George A. Morse, an aged and absolutely helpless patient in the Agnew's insane asylum, at San Jose, Cal., was slowly boiled to death in a bath in the men's ward of that institution. He was placed in a bath tub, and after the hot water was turned on the attendant left the room for a towel, forgot his patient, and did not return until the imbecile was fearfully burned.

A serious fire is raging on Bull mountain, Railroad creek and Pompey's Pillar, on the north side of the Yellowstone river, Montana. It is extending east to the Mussel Shell river, and is sweeping the range like tinder, as everything is dry. A late report says that 20 head of horses belonging to Ramsey, of Billings, were burned. Vast flocks of sheep are in great danger.

Tien Tsin is hard pressed by 80,000 Chinese.

Cubans are pleased at the withdrawal of American troops.

St. Louis street car employees have renewed their strike.

Chinese imperial troops are defending the foreigners in Pekin.

Chinese do not want religion and no amount of war can make them accept it.

Battleship Oregon will not be sent to Tokyo unless absolutely necessary.

It is said America is to have 11,000 men in the force of 100,000 to be used in China.

The steamer Rosalia arrived at Seattle from Lynn canal, with \$600,000 in Klondike gold.

American trade will be injured if the powers decide to make war on the Chinese empire.

The Oregon must remain in dry dock 90 days. She has arrived at Chefoo and will go to Japan at once.

Li Hung Chang is again urging the powers to intervene and establish a strong government in the Chinese empire.

George Horrick, is held at North Yakima on a charge of killing a squaw on the reservation. He claims self-defense.

Rumor is current that the Chicago & Alton, Kansas City Southern and Union Pacific railways will be amalgamated.

Dr. Henry D. Cogswell, a well-known philanthropist and prohibitionist, is dead at San Francisco, aged 80 years.

Commissioner of Patents Duell is said to be out for the nomination for governor of New York on the Republican ticket.

Japanese laborers in Hawaii are discontented. Plantation managers have conceded everything asked for and still they are not satisfied.

The converter and billet mill of the Illinois Steel Company at Joliet, Ill., resumed operations and nearly 1,000 men were put to work.

Russian, French and German admirals at Tien Tsin are said to have expressed themselves as unfavorable to Japan's being given a free hand.

Roy C. Gage, of Company C, Third regiment, O. N. G., in their annual encampment at Salem, was drowned in the Willamette river while bathing.

During the last 13 years the population of Germany has increased 14 per cent, but the number of doctors in the German empire has increased no less than 56 per cent. If this ratio is kept up, any statistician can foresee the time when every German will be a doctor, and the whole German population, having no patients on whom to practice, will have to migrate to fields where physicians are a shade less common.

## LATER NEWS.

American athletes were successful at the Paris tournament.

An all day fight between the Boers and British at Platkop resulted indecisively.

The Russian minister at Pekin is said to have been boiled to death by Boers.

Nine houses were entirely consumed and many others damaged by fire at Dunsmuir, Cal.

A German paper says the seizure of Kiao Chou has caused the present trouble with China.

Fire at Dunsmuir, I. T., wiped out the greater portion of the town, causing a loss of \$100,000.

All foreigners have been removed from the town of Wa Chou, China, and are safe at Shanghai.

United States Senator John H. Gear, of Iowa, died at Washington City of heart disease, aged 75 years.

A large part of the business district of Prescott, Arizona, was burned, causing a loss of \$1,000,000.

The steamer City of Topeka arrived at Seattle from Lynn canal with gold dust worth \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 in gold dust from Klondike.

Twenty square miles of forests were burned by a fire started by a firecracker near Grub Gulch, Cal. The loss will be hundreds of thousands.

General rain has fallen over nearly all India during the past few days and the prospects are that crops have immensely improved. The famine area has generally been benefited.

Eight-hour shifts for all underground men at the United Verde mine and an increase of 15 per cent in wages for miners in certain portions of the mine were announced at Jerome, Ariz.

Advices were received from Sydney that tribal wars are raging at the Solomon group. There has been a fierce battle between the Mariu (Boys) and Malata tribes. The losses on each side were heavy.

Dynamite was exploded under a Transit car in North St. Louis, and four passengers were injured. A suburban car, the only union line in the city, accidentally ran into a strikers' bus wagon and injured 12 occupants, two seriously.

Judge Thomas Ayer, of the United States court of appeals at St. Louis, has handed down an opinion declaring that John P. Reese, the Iowa Miners' Union official who was sentenced to imprisonment in Kansas for violation of a strike injunction, was illegally restrained of his liberty, and granted a writ of habeas corpus releasing him. Judge Ayer ruled that the lower court erred in including Reese under the injunction.

William Ables, an old resident of Tacoma, committed suicide.

Rich gold strikes have been made on the Koyukuk, some claims staked out yielding \$4 to the pan.

Robbers held up an Illinois Central train near Paducah, Ky., blew up the express car and secured \$10,000.

The empress dowager has ordered the suppression of the Boxers and the protection of the legations at Pekin.

A Pullman car was turned upside down near Redding, Cal., the nine occupants were all more or less injured, but none fatally.

Thirty-five bodies, horribly disfigured, have been recovered from the hull of the steamship Saale, recently burned at Hoboken, N. J.

County Commissioner Campbell, of Spokane county, Wash., was killed by an O. R. & N. passenger train near Latah, Idaho. He was crossing the track in a buggy.

A flood of gold is pouring in from Alaska. The receipts of the government assay office at Seattle in the fiscal year were \$18,630,326. This month's receipts may exceed \$6,000,000.

The Chinese government is sorry for the recent outbreaks, but holds the powers blameable. The empress dowager says the attacks on Tien Tsin were the result of the bombardment of Tien Tsin.

Savages of the Caroline islands attacked a shipwrecked British crew, seriously wounding two of the British, and were only driven off when an American cattle dealer came to the rescue of the British.

On the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, a deliberate attempt to wreck the Washington express, bearing \$5,000,000 in gold to the treasury in New York, came very near being successful at Folston, a short distance outside of Philadelphia.

The general freight agents of leading Western roads have formed an arrangement for the pooling of business. Joint agencies are to be established at Kansas City, Omaha and St. Paul. A joint agent will be placed in charge of the traffic at each of these cities.

Colombian revolutionists, under General Juan B. Gonzales and Simon Chaux, have captured the city of Popayan, a capital of the department of Cauca. On the march to Popayan the revolutionists took all the cities near the Ecuadorian frontier, including the Puerto Tonico.

Robert Fitzsimmons will meet both Sharkey and Rubin next month.

Gold hunters in Russia are governed by arbitrary laws, one of which compels them to turn over all gold they may find to the imperial treasury, which pays the miner at a standard rate. This law may seem tyrannical, but it has no inestimable advantage—no gold digger in Russia can tell extraordinary romances about the richness of his claim when the official figures are there to stop him.

## TRAPPED BY BOERS

Another British Force Falls Into Dutch Hands.

THE CAPTURE OF NITRAL'S NEK

Lord Roberts Reports the Casualties Heavy—Another English Defeat North of Pretoria.

London, July 14.—Lord Roberts reports to the war office, under date of Pretoria, July 14, as follows:

"The enemy, having failed in their attack upon our right rear, as mentioned in my telegram of July 9, made a determined attack upon our right flank yesterday, and, I regret to say, succeeded in capturing Nitral's Nek, which was garrisoned by a squadron of the Scots guards, with two guns of a battery of the Royal artillery and five companies of the Lincolnshire regiment. The enemy attacked in superior numbers at dawn, and, seizing the hills commanding the Nek, brought a heavy gun fire to bear upon the small garrison. Nitral's Nek is about 18 miles from here, near where the road crosses the Crocodile river. It was held by us in order to maintain road and telegraphic communication with Rustenburg.

"The fighting lasted, more or less, throughout the day, and immediately on receiving information this evening of the enemy's strength, I dispatched reinforcements from here under Colonel Godfrey, of the King's Own Scotch Borderers. Before, however, they reached the spot, the garrison had been overpowered, the guns and the greater portion of the squadron of the Grays had been captured, owing to the horses being shot; also about 90 men of the Lincolnshire regiment. A list of the casualties has not been received, but I think they are heavy.

"Simultaneously, an attack was made on our outposts, near Durpoort, north of the town, in which the Seventh dragoons were engaged. The regiment was handled with considerable skill by Lieutenant-Colonel Low, and kept on their supports, and would probably have suffered but slight loss, had not our troops mistaken some Boers in the bushes for our own men.

"Smith-Dorrien had a small engagement with the enemy yesterday near Krugersdorp, and inflicted heavy loss on them.

"Buller reports that the Boers who were destroying his line of railway near Paarde Kraal were driven off yesterday, after a short action.

"Hart reports from Heidelberg that the surrendering of Boer arms and ammunition continues in that district."

Duel Between Frenchmen.

Paris, July 14.—M. Lasco, the prominent Nationalist deputy, whose name had been connected with the most disorderly incidents in the chamber of deputies during the past session, fought a duel with swords today with a newspaper man, M. Gerault Rich, in a suburb of Paris. The meeting was the outcome of an article written by the latter in the social organ, La Petite Republique. In the 11th round, Lasco was wounded in the right arm and the duel was stopped.

Campaign May Run Bryan's Campaign.

Detroit, July 14.—Daniel J. Campau, who returned from Chicago today, said that the Democratic national committee had asked him to accept the chairmanship of the National Democratic campaign committee, and upon his declining the offer, had refused to accept the declination and had asked him to take the matter under advisement. Mr. Campau said he will soon give the committee a final answer.

Philippine Postal Service.

San Francisco, July 13.—United States Postoffice Inspector James W. Erwin, of this city, has received orders from Washington to proceed as early as possible to the Philippines and assist in the organization of the postal system in the islands. He will sail on the transport Sumner next Monday. Mr. Erwin recently aided in improving the Cuban postal service.

Heat Wave in London.

London, July 14.—An exceptional heat wave is causing numerous sun-strokes and prostrations. In London the thermometer registered 129 degrees in the sun and 88 in the shade at noon.

Oil Tank Exploded.

Boston, July 14.—By an explosion of an oil tank in the railroad yards at Somerville, during a fire last night, over 100 persons were more or less injured, and two are reported dead.

Electric Cars Collide.

Springfield, O., July 14.—Two cars collided on the Dayton, Springfield & Urbana electric road last night, and telegraphed. Probably 20 persons were injured.

Suicide of an Old Illinoisan.

Chicago, July 11.—F. B. Gossitt, founder of La Grange, Ill., and one of the best-known men in this section, today committed suicide by shooting. He was 80 years old and was despondent from long illness.

Rail Mill Starts Up.

Milwaukee, Wis., July 14.—The rail reducing mill at the Bay View works of the Illinois Steel Company started up today, after being idle two weeks. Over 200 men are affected. The scale agreed upon is practically the same as last year's.

Italy Approves Commercial Treaty.

Rome, July 14.—The chamber of deputies today approved the commercial treaty between the United States and Italy.

## ENGLAND TAKES AN ISLAND.

Raises Her Flag Over Niue, in the South Pacific Ocean.

Vancouver, July 14.—The steamer Miowara, from Sydney today, brings news that Great Britain has added another to her island possessions in the Pacific. H. M. S. Porpoise in June planted the British flag on Niue or Savage island, situated 300 miles northeast of the Tonga group. The principal product is copra, of which 700 tons are exported annually.

The terms of the British protectorate over Tonga have been modified as a result of a conference between Basil Thompson, the British representative, and the Tonga king and chiefs, when an agreement was signed by which no treaty is to be made without Great Britain's consent. In case of the Tonga government being in need of assistance, it is to apply only to the British government and not to any other power.

Upon the return of H. M. S. Porpoise from Tonga, the commander reported that Falcon island, which disappeared in 1898, has again appeared. The shape of the returned island is like a whale's back, and it is considered to be a serious danger to navigation. Falcon island is said to owe its disappearance and reappearance to submarine volcanic activity. Its location is south west of the Friendly islands.

Advices from Apia say that the little island of Niutu, or Hope, has been completely devastated by a disastrous hurricane which swept away 300 houses. Thirty-eight natives were killed. The coconut crop was entirely destroyed and the natives are reported to be on the verge of starvation.

Bandits Attack Mexican Train.

Mexico City, Mexico, July 14.—A daring train robbery took place Tuesday night near Chihuahua, on the Mexican Central. After the train dis-tracked to let a passenger train pass it, it was found that the spikes on the siding had been pulled out. The train was derailed and the train crew attacked by a dozen bandits. Many shots were fired. Meanwhile the passenger train arrived and the crew, taking in the situation, pulled back to Chihuahua with the crew of the freight train. With a force of police and rurales the passenger train returned to the scene of the hold-up. The robbers had broken into several freight cars and carried away booty. The police and soldiers started in pursuit, and one robber was captured with some booty. Thus far this is the first train hold-up on record in Mexico.

A Marvelous Escape.

Acra, Gold Coast Colony, July 14.—Sir Frederick Mitchell Hodgson, governor of the colony, who recently arrived here, after having been besieged at Kumassie by rebellious tribesmen, and privations to which he has been subjected in the course of an interview said he considered his escape the most marvelous on record. He attributed its success to the secrecy maintained concerning the route chosen. The carriers who accompanied him became so weakened by starvation that everything was abandoned and the party subsisted upon plantains. They endured great hardships. Fortunately the rains were not heavy. Had it been otherwise all would probably have succumbed. Lady Hodgson pluckily shared all the dangers and privations.

Farquhar Suspended.

London, July 13.—There is considerable comment here owing to an admiralty order suspending the further granting of furloughs to crews of the ships belonging to the channel and reserve squadrons. The order is reported to be connected with the maneuvers of the French fleet in the channel.

Cholera in India.

Simla, July 13.—Cholera has appeared in severe epidemic form at Kohat, 25 miles south of Peshawar. Two hundred and seven cases and 77 deaths occurred among the Sepoys and camp followers between July 3 and July 9. The prospect for the monsoon is slightly more favorable.

The orders for General Wade to start for the scene of the threatened Indian uprising in Minnesota have been countermanded, as the secretary of the interior has received advices from the Rainy Lake region that affairs have quieted down and that there is no longer any reason to apprehend trouble from the Indians.

New Freight Transports.

San Francisco, July 14.—The new freight steamer Californian, with a capacity of 8,000 tons, has been chartered by the United States government to carry freight to Manila. The Strathgyle, a vessel of equal size, will also be loaded at once with stores for the Philippines.

Dynamite Under a House.

Williamsburg, O., July 14.—Unknown persons placed dynamite under one corner of the residence of Henry Wilson, just west of here, early this morning. The room above was wrecked by the explosion and William Wilson, a 10-year-old boy, was killed. Miss Kate Tucker was severely injured. The other occupants of the house escaped injury.

London, July 14.—The war office announces that General Buller reports that 659 prisoners released by Boers have arrived at Ladysmith.

Charged With Murder.

San Francisco, July 14.—Charges looking to the trial by court-martial have been preferred with Colonel Long against Captain Charles T. Baker, of the United States transport Sumner. The cause of the complaint is that Captain Baker caused the death of Henry B. Ryan by confining him in the "brig" or prison aboard ship, while he was ill. In consequence of this a charge of murder is preferred against Captain Baker.

## ALLIES DRIVEN BACK

May Be Forced to Abandon Tien Tsin.

POSITION BECOMING UNFETTERABLE

Li Hung Chang Will Remain at Canton Until International Troops Have Defeated Tuan's Forces.

London, July 16.—The scanty cable dispatches received today add nothing to the knowledge in London of the Chinese situation. It is stated positively from Canton that Li Hung Chang will remain there until the allied troops have defeated Prince Tuan's forces, and will then go north to lend his powerful aid in arranging terms of peace, co-operating with Prince Ching, Yang Lu and the other pro-foreign viceroys. For the present Li Hung Chang considers that he can best control and direct the viceroys from Canton and also keep in check the turbulent province of Kwang Tung.

All the foreigners and missionaries have evacuated Wan Chao and have arrived at Ning Po. Large bodies of Boxers appeared at Wan Chao and threatened to exterminate the foreigners and Christians. They also distributed banners, badges and inflammatory anti-foreign appeals.

The Tien Tsin correspondent of the Express, telegraphing under date of July 9, asserts that the Chinese are daily driving in the allies. They have mounted, says the correspondent, 13 fresh guns in advantageous positions, with which they are now keeping clear the streets of the foreign settlement, the incessant shooting rendering the neighborhood quite untenable.

The Daily Mail's St. Petersburg correspondent says that in the last six hours' battle outside of Tien Tsin, the Cosacks captured six Krupp guns and killed numbers of fleeing Boxers. The Chinese lost 3,000 killed, including General Kerk.

BOLD PLAN OF THE BOERS.

Boer's Army Is Trying to Recapture Pretoria.

London, July 16.—Lord Roberts' dispatch, reporting still another unfortunate occurrence, throws a serious light upon the state of affairs in South Africa. There has been some comment recently regarding the virtual absence of progress by the immense army under command of Lord Roberts, but few could have been led to believe that the scattered Boers were able to inflict such a defeat so near Pretoria.

Instead of the surrender of all of the remaining Boers being imminent, as recent telegrams had hinted, it seems they have been making a concerted attempt to surround and recapture Pretoria, with so much success that in the region which was supposed to be pacified, and in which no attack was expected, they succeeded in inflicting a serious defeat, and capturing two guns and some 200 men. It is evident that General Botha has considerable force, seeing that he is able to press Lord Roberts' lines at half a dozen points around Pretoria, from the springs to the southeast of the city northward to Middelburg and Durpoort and thence southward to Nitral's Nek and Krugersdorp.

Lord Roberts omits to give the name of the commander concerned, giving rise to the belief that worse remains to be told. Even if the mishap be not more grave than his information at present implies, it proves that the situation is still serious, and that there is no possibility of any troops being spared from South Africa for China, but on the contrary, it will still take a long time to clear the country of the Boers.

News has reached London that Lord Roberts has been suffering from a serious bowel complaint, and that Lady Roberts was hurriedly summoned to Bloemfontein.

Gunpowder Plot in Paris.

Paris, July 16.—Inquiries are being made into what may possibly turn out to be a serious attempt to destroy the grand palace of the Champs Elysees, Wednesday night. A watchman of cellars which were filled with package cases and a large quantity of other inflammable material overheard a conversation between two men, leading him to believe that a plot was on foot to set fire to the building. The miscreants fled upon his approach. A search the next morning resulted in the discovery of two hermetically sealed boxes filled with black powder. The chemical properties of this powder have not yet been disclosed by the authorities.

Fires at Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh, July 16.—Six coal and ice store houses, three stables, a frame dwelling, a number of outbuildings and six Pennsylvania freight cars were destroyed by fire today at Sewickley, a suburb of Pittsburgh. Samuel Woods, a stableman, was burned to death, and eight horses were cremated. The loss is \$50,000. The Garland Chemical Works at Rankin, Pa., were burned at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon. The loss is \$100,000. The fire was caused by the explosion of a tank of chemicals, but no one was injured.

Electric Storm in Iowa.

Dubuque, Ia., July 16.—A terrific electric storm, accompanied by a rainfall of 1.72 inches, raged here for three hours today. Nellie L. McQuillan, aged 16, was killed by lightning. The Fourth street incline railway station was struck and shattered. It is believed great damage was done in the country.

A good many men boast of their methodical habits who never have anything but unpaid bills to file away.

## HUNDREDS BURNED.

Oil Tank Exploded Scattering Oil Over Throng of People.

New York, July 16.—A special from Boston to the Herald says: By the explosion of an oil tank in Somerville last night nearly a hundred persons were more or less injured, and early this morning two were reported dead. Many of the injured are in the Cambridge, Somerville and Massachusetts general hospitals, while others were taken to houses near the scene of the explosion.

In the yard of the Boston & Maine Railroad, near the old McLean asylum, among more than a thousand freight cars filled with coal and general merchandise, were three oil tanks of the Union Oil Company. When one of the cars caught fire and made a blaze that could be seen all over Somerville, hundreds of people flocked to the yards. The Somerville firemen arrived promptly enough, but had to carry hose through all kinds of places, while the fire burned briskly and the crowd drew closer and closer. It is estimated that soon after the fire started fully 1,000 persons were in the freight yards, and scores of the most daring were on top of freight cars near the fire.

Suddenly there was a rumbling noise. One great sheet of flame shot into the air, and a huge oil tank which had been on a car went up on end, scattering blazing oil in all directions. The huge tank of oil, one of three, on as many cars, had exploded. The burning oil fell upon men, women and children in the throng, who shrieked with pain and terror. Six men on top of one box car were thrown to the ground with their clothing on fire. Men and women, with their garments burning, ran about the yard in terror. Some were so badly burned that they dropped. Those who were not on fire helped the railroad men were performing acts of heroism. The oil tank which had exploded was on a car between two others, and those were in danger of going up at any minute. A locomotive was backed in and started to draw out the train. A railroad man ran up, threw a heavy sleeper beneath the wheels of the burning tank, the coupling broke, the car stopped and the oil tanks were separated.

Fifteen persons were taken to the Somerville hospital. Joseph Hayden, of engine company No. 1, who was standing on the oil tank at the time of the explosion, died early this morning.

KETTELER TO BLAME.

Would Not Call Additional Guards for the Legations.

New York, July 16.—A dispatch to the Herald from Berlin says: A letter has just been published here from Lieutenant von Loesch, attaché of the German legation at Pekin. It is dated May 29, and shows that the early failure to increase the guards of the various legations was due to the action of the late Baron von Ketteler.

The letter states that after the first attack by the Boxers on the Pekin-Hankow railroad, a meeting of the ministers was held to decide whether additional troops should be sent for to protect the legations. Baron von Ketteler was very much opposed to this being done, while the French minister was very much in favor of this course. The latter was, however, overruled by his colleagues. M. Pichon was so hurt by this refusal to ask for guards that he wept.

Another factor that led the ministers to reach this unfortunate conclusion was the desire of the diplomatic corps to take their usual summer holiday and it was feared that if additional troops were sent for they would not be able to do so.

Later on, as the Boxer movement increased, a second conference of ministers was called, at which it was resolved to bring detachments of at least 50 men to guard each legation.

A Runaway Freight Train.

Redding, Cal., July 16.—Last night, when a freight train bound for Oregon, drawn by two engines, was climbing the heavy grade above Upton, a coupling gave way, and 30 cars, loaded with fruit, started back. They passed through Sisson seemingly at the rate of 70 miles an hour. Half a mile below Sisson is the Pioneer Box Factory. Here seven of the cars broke loose and pitched over than embankment. The others continued on their mad course. At Big Canyon, three miles below Sisson, the runaway train again parted, some of the cars flying the track and being dashed to pieces. The other half dozen continued over a high trestle around a loop and finally shot off the rails below Mott, after running 10 miles. All the timbers are in splinters. Fortunately, no trains were encountered by the runaway.

Robbers Caught in the Act.

Marshalltown, Ia., July 16.—Four men were caught in the act of robbing Mason Whitehill's general store at State Center today. A number of citizens surrounded the building, and a pitched battle ensued. Ben Whitehill, one of the proprietors, was shot in the leg. One of the robbers was also wounded, and with one of his associates was captured. The other two escaped.

Political success, like anything else, depends almost entirely on the amount of rattling a man does.

Surgeons for Cape Nome.

Washington, July 16.—As a result of a conference today between Assistant Secretary Talyor and the officials of the marine hospital service, two additional surgeons have been ordered to proceed at once from San Francisco to Seattle, and thence by boat to Cape Nome, to assist in stamping out the smallpox now epidemic at that place.

When a woman dislikes a man, it is her favorite mode of abuse to charge that he leads a dual life.

## BIG FIRE IN PRESCOTT

Losses Aggregate More Than \$1,000,000.

MANY HOMELESS AND PENNILESS

Principal Business Portion of the Town Destroyed—Merchants Ready for Business in Tents.

Prescott, Ariz., July 17.—A scene of great desolation and a feeling of deep gloom pervades this town today. All that remains of the principal business portion of the town is tottering walls and piles of charred and burning debris.

The fire, which started at 10:45 o'clock last night, was not under control until 8 o'clock this morning, when the fighters went a considerable distance in advance of the flames and blew up the buildings on the south side of Goodwin street, preventing the fire from crossing that street. The most conservative estimates of the total losses are from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000. The burned district embraces five blocks, in which were located the principal mercantile houses, both banks, both telephone offices, the three newspaper offices, four hotels, and every saloon and restaurant except one in the town, besides scores of private residences. To add to the prevailing gloom, a high wind has prevailed all day, sending smoke, dust and burning embers in every direction, requiring the greatest vigilance to prevent another outbreak of the flames. Owing to the chaotic condition existing today, it is impossible to obtain an accurate account of the loss or individual insurance. From interviews with insurance agents, the total insurance does not exceed \$350,000.

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